AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 4, 7 and 10 as follows. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A system for allowing an application using a first implementation of a metadata schema to access data stored using a second implementation of a metadata schema, wherein the data stored using the second implementation includes a data file comprising data describing media essence, data describing metadata objects that reference the media essence and data describing the second implementation of the metatdata schema, comprising:

means for specifying an evolved property definition, for each object having a property in the first implementation that is different from a corresponding property of a corresponding object in the second implementation, wherein the evolved property definition is added as a property of the object in the metadata schema in the data file; and

means for redirecting accesses to a property in the first implementation using the evolved property definition to access the corresponding property in the data stored in the second implementation.

2. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the evolved property definition includes a reference to stored instructions for deriving a property in the first implementation from data stored in the second implementation.

3. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the means for specifying comprises:

means for accessing stored information describing the first implementation of the metadata schema and the second implementation of the metadata schema; and

means for determining a difference between the first implementation of the metadata schema and the second implementation of the metadata schema.

4. (Currently Amended) A system for allowing an application using a first implementation of a metadata schema to access data stored using a second implementation of a metadata schema, wherein the data stored using the second implementation includes a data file comprising data

describing media essence, data describing metadata objects that reference the media essence and data describing the second implementation of the metatdata schema, comprising:

means for specifying a synthesized property definition for each object having a property in the first implementation for which a corresponding object in the second implementation lacks a corresponding property, wherein the synthesized property definition is added as a property of the object in the metadata schema in the data file; and

means for maintaining information about accesses to the synthesized property definition.

5. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 4, wherein the synthesized property definition includes a reference to stored instructions for deriving a property in the first implementation from data stored in the second implementation.

6. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 4, wherein the means for specifying comprises:

means for accessing stored information describing the first implementation of the metadata schema and the second implementation of the metadata schema; and

means for determining a difference between the first implementation of the metadata schema and the second implementation of the metadata schema.

7. (Currently Amended) A method for allowing an application using a first implementation of a metadata schema to access data stored using a second implementation of a metadata schema, wherein the data stored using the second implementation includes a data file comprising data describing media essence, data describing metadata objects that reference the media essence and data describing the second implementation of the metatdata schema, comprising:

specifying an evolved property definition, for each object having a property in the first implementation that is different from a corresponding property of a corresponding object in the second implementation, wherein the evolved property definition is added as a property of the object in the metadata schema in the data file; and

redirecting accesses to a property in the first implementation using the evolved property definition to access the corresponding property in the data stored in the second implementation.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the evolved property definition includes a reference to stored instructions for deriving a property in the first implementation from data stored in the second implementation.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, wherein specifying comprises:

accessing stored information describing the first implementation of the metadata schema and the second implementation of the metadata schema; and

determining a difference between the first implementation of the metadata schema and the second implementation of the metadata schema.

10. (Currently Amended) A method for allowing an application using a first implementation of a metadata schema to access data stored using a second implementation of a metadata schema, wherein the data stored using the second implementation includes a data file comprising data describing media essence, data describing metadata objects that reference the media essence and data describing the second implementation of the metatdata schema, comprising:

specifying a synthesized property definition for each object having a property in the first implementation for which a corresponding object in the second implementation lacks a corresponding property, wherein the synthesized property definition is added as a property of the object in the metadata schema in the data file; and

maintaining information about accesses to the synthesized property definition.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the synthesized property definition includes a reference to stored instructions for deriving a property in the first implementation from data stored in the second implementation.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein specifying comprises:

accessing stored information describing the first implementation of the metadata schema and the second implementation of the metadata schema; and

determining a difference between the first implementation of the metadata schema and the second implementation of the metadata schema.

13-16. Cancelled.